Escape of Prisoners

2252. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 90 per cent of prisoners who escape do so while being escorted by the police without handcuffs from prison to courts and back, as per data prepared by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D);

(b) whether Government are also aware that Justice V.S. Malimath, heading the committee for reform in the criminal justice system, has suggested that the Supreme Court judgement on hand-cuffing could be reviewed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) BPR&D have not prepared any data showing that 90% of prisoners who escape do so while being escorted by the police without handcuffs from prison to courts and back. However, an analysis by National Crime Records Bureau shows that 83.7% prisoners escape from custody while outside lock-up.

(b) and (c) Justice V.S. Malimath who delivered the valedictory address in a Seminar held on 10th July 2002, on **"Use** "of Handcuffs" at New Delhi, made an observation that Supreme Court can be approached to review its earlier decision preferably with a transparent internal supervision mechanism in place.

(d) There is no proposal to approach the Supreme Court on the matter at present.

Nagpur as alternate capital of the country

2253. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of Government to make Nagpur as alternate capital of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;